

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 3-6 and 9-12 are pending in the present application. No claims are withdrawn from consideration. By virtue of this response, no claims are cancelled, claims 1, 3, 5, 9, and 12 have been amended, and no new claims are added. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-6 and 9-12 are currently under consideration. Amendment and cancellation of certain claims is not to be construed as a dedication to the public of any of the subject matter of the claims as previously presented. No new matter has been added.

**Claim Objections**

Claims 1, 3, 5, 9 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1, lines 8-9, “**predetermined voltage**” should correctly be -- **predetermined constant voltage** --.

Claim 3, line 5, “**based current control**” should correctly be -- **based current, controls** --.

Claim 5, page 3, lines 1-2, “a second control circuit” should correctly be -- **a second control current** --.

Claim 9, “claim 2” should correctly be -- **claim 1** -- .

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration of the presently pending claims. The above listed recommended amendments have been made in the claims.

Applicants have also amended the specification at page 11 to correct typographical errors that correspond to the typographical errors identified above.

**Rejections under 35 USC § 112**

Claims 3, 5, 10, 11 are rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In response, Applicants have amended claim 1 to clarify that the base current control section comprises a comparator, which makes dependent claims relating to the base current control section (e.g., claim 3) clear and definite.

Applicants also respectfully submit that dependent claims 3 and 5 satisfy 35 U.S.C. § 112 at least because the specification calls for the current mirror of FIG. 3 to function as an amplifier (bottom of first full paragraph on page 11) and it has been known by those of ordinary skill in the art that current mirrors, such as that illustrated in FIG. 3 and described with respect to FIG. 3 on pages 10-11, can function as amplifiers. Their amplification function includes a ratioing of currents flowing through each transistor by adjusting relative dimensions of transistors comprising the current mirror. For Bipolar Junction Transistors (BJT), this multiplication can be effected by adjusting the emitter area ratio between the mirrored transistors. For FET transistors, this same effect can be achieved by adjusting (W/L) ratios. Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that FIG. 3 and disclosure relating thereto clearly and definitely describes the subject matter of claim 10.

Applicants further submit that FIG. 4 and description relating thereto clearly and definitely illustrates and describes a further example circuit in support of claim 3. In this case, Q10 amplifies the collector current of Q8. Page 12 at lines 11-12 describes “an amplifier for amplifying a first control current flowing through the transistor Q8 is made not of a current mirror circuit but of the transistor Q10 alone.” Applicants respectfully submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would understand from the disclosure and FIG. 4 that Q10 is configured to amplify the first control current. Applicants also respectfully submit that FIG. 4 and disclosure relating thereto clearly and definitely describes the subject matter of claim 11.

Miscellaneous Claim amendments:

Applicants have removed “from an outside” in claims 1 and 12 to further clarify the claims.

Based at least on the above remarks, Applicants submit that claims 3, 5, 10, and 11 satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections against these claims.

**CONCLUSION**


In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no.

559502001200. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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